IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following new paragraph on page 1, before line 4.

This is a divisional application of Application No. 09/893,639, filed June 29, 2001.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 14, line 25, as follows.

In the photovoltaic power generation system and the control method thereof according to the first and second aspects of the present invention, the detecting means is preferably ~~either of~~ a proximity sensor, an optical sensor, a magnetic sensor, a magnet sensor, a temperature sensor, a humidity sensor, an impact sensor, an acceleration sensor, a weight sensor, a current sensor, ~~and~~ or an electromagnetic sensor. When either of these electronic sensors is used, the detection accuracy is enhanced and centralized monitoring can be performed. Therefore, the number of guards can be reduced and, besides, it also becomes easier to ensure the safety for intruders. In addition, the guards do not have to always monitor the intruders and upon detection of an intruder the guards do not have to activate the safeguard such as prevention of an electric shock or the like every time. Therefore, the period from the detection of intruder to the activation of the safeguard can be reduced more whereby the intruder can be prevented from receiving an electric shock.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 34, line 8, as follows.

The positive terminal and negative terminal of each solar cell string (11a to 11c) are guided to a switch 13 for photovoltaic power generation system and a reverse

current preventing diode 14 is provided in positive wires. These solar cell strings are connected in parallel and wires thereof are guided to a main switch 15 and an array shorting switch 16. A solar inverter 17 is connected to a commercial ac system 18 of a house switchboard. Also provided is a sensor detection unit 19, a signal processing/ comparison 110, a control unit 111, and an alarm/display 112. The solar cells in the present embodiment may be of the crystalline type or the amorphous type (including the microcrystalline type).

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 59, line 11, as follows.

When all A1 to A6 are smaller than the determination start reference value S, the sensor comparison calculation is not carried out and the flow returns through a measurement interval T (step S55) to step S53.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 62, line 1, as follows.

Specifically, Example 6B is different from Example 6A in that when the calculated value D is smaller than the sensor current comparison reference value D0 (step S510), the array is shorted without output of an alarm (step S611). This configuration can also prevent the electric shock and thus ensure the safety while preventing the malfunctions such as the unwanted short circuit of the solar cell array and the like.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 66, line 25, as follows.

When all A1 to A14 are smaller than the determination start reference value S (step S95), the sensor comparison calculations are not carried out and the flow returns through a measurement interval T (steps S96) to step S93.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 67, line 16, as follows.

When all the comparison calculated values D1 to D3 are larger than the sensor current comparison reference value D0 (step S98), the flow goes through a measurement interval T (step S99) to cancel the alarm (step S910). When there is a shorted string, the alarm is canceled for the strings other than the shorted string (step S910).

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 68, line 13, as follows.

When the alarm output time is less than the reference value T0, the flow returns through a measurement interval T (step S913) to step S93.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 68, line 16, as follows.

When there exists a non-shorted string (step S916), the flow returns through a measurement interval T (step S915) to steps S93.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 68, line 19, as follows.

When all the strings are shorted (step S916), the processing is ended (step S917).

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 69, line 3, as follows.

Specifically, Example 7B is different from Example 7A in that when at least one of the calculated values D1 to D3 is smaller than the sensor current comparison reference value D0 (step S98), no alarm is outputted and the objective string (the string corresponding to the comparison calculated value Dy smaller than the comparison reference value D0) is shorted (step S1011). This configuration can also prevent the electric shock and ensure the safety while preventing the malfunctions such as the unwanted short circuit of the solar cell strings and the like. Since only the objective string is shorted, the power can be supplied from the rest strings.